

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: June 19, 2003***

TROPICAL WEATHER SUMMARY

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Tropical Weather Summary (TWS) is a monthly narrative alphanumeric product which the National Hurricane Center (NHC) and the Central Pacific Hurricane Center (CPHC) issue to summarize tropical cyclone activity during the previous month. NHC issues summaries which cover tropical cyclone activity over the Atlantic and eastern north Pacific (north of the equator and east of 140W longitude) basins. CPHC issues summaries which cover tropical cyclone activity over the central North Pacific (north of the equator between 140W and 180W longitude) basin. The centers issue new summaries the first day of each month from June through December. The last TWS of the tropical cyclone season (December issuance) covers activity during the entire season from June through the end of November. Information contained within each TWS includes such items as description of strength, intensity, motion, impacts, and dates and times of occurrence.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The TWS provides a brief summary of tropical cyclone activity during the preceding month. Monthly updates permit a timely release of tropical cyclone information. In addition to the TWS, NHC and CPHC prepare and submit a formal, detailed season summary which involves a lengthy review and publication process. These products are used by a variety of customers for historical purpose, business (e.g. insurance) and climatological needs.

3. Audience:

The target audience of the TWS includes national, state, and local emergency managers, military and civilian government agencies, media, and the general public.

4. Presentation Format:

The TWS is a narrative alphanumeric document in a block paragraph format.

5. Feedback Method:

The National Weather Service (NWS) is constantly seeking to improve its products based on user feedback. Continuous feedback is available via Internet page e-mail links to program manager in the Marine and Coastal Weather Services, and managers at the TPC and Honolulu WFO. NHC, CPHC, and NWSH also obtain feedback through meetings with emergency managers and media personnel, outreach activities, and through customer surveys.

Technical and policy questions, and comments for the Tropical Weather Summary may be addressed to:

National Weather Service
Attn: Scott Kiser W/OS21
Hurricane Program Manager
1325 East-West Highway, Station 13126
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3285

or e-mail questions and comments to: Scott.Kiser@noaa.gov

Part 2 - Technical

1. **Format and Science Basis:**

The TWS is a narrative alphanumeric product using a block paragraph format.

2. **Availability:**

NHC and CPHC issue a new TWS on the first day of each month from June through December. The last TWS of the tropical cyclone season (December issuance) covers activity during the entire season from June through the end of November. Information contained within each TWS includes such items as description of strength, intensity, motion, impacts, and dates and times of occurrence. Users can receive new message can receive the product via the Internet, NOAAPORT, EMWIN, and NOAA Weather Wire. Additional information on Tropical Cyclone product dissemination is available at:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>.

The following Internet site is one location to access the TWS product:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>.

3. **Additional Information:**

A description of policy governing the TWS is located in NWS Instruction 10-601. A copy of this policy is available via the Internet at:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/010/operation_services.htm.